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**To:** [Interior@bulletinintelligence.com](mailto:Interior@bulletinintelligence.com)

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NEWS BRIEFING**

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## DOI in the News:

**TRUMP TEAM TO REVIEW MOST INTERIOR NOTICES, CORRESPONDENCE.** [Politico Pro](#) (1/27) reports that a memo “requires all notices and most correspondence at Interior to be reviewed by Trump’s team.” The document states, “No correspondence should be cleared to go to Congress or any Governor until it has been reviewed by the Acting Chief of Staff and Senior White House Advisor.” According to the article, “once assembled, Trump’s Interior leadership will decide whether to maintain the restrictions.”

***Trump’s Communications Strategy Causes Concern Among Scientists.*** The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/27, Harder, Carlton, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports chaos among federal agencies over the transition of power has led to confusion over what agencies are allowed to display on their websites. However, an EPA spokesman denied reports that Trump would soon require the agency to delete its climate change website. In addition, experts say the Trump transition has not differed all that much from past transitions. Yet, Trump’s move to quiet communications has left scientists wondering whether Trump will clamp down on hot-button science issues.

***Alternative NWS Twitter Account Created Wednesday Has 70,000 Followers.*** The [Washington Post](#) (1/27, Fritz, 11.43M) reports that dozens of alternative, unauthorized government accounts “have sprung up on Twitter in the past week, since the Badlands National Park Service went ‘went rogue’” and tweeted facts about greenhouse gases and climate change. The accounts include an alternative to the National Weather Service, @AlternativeNWS, which “was created Wednesday and has already acquired more than 70,000 followers.”

Additional coverage of “rogue” Twitter accounts was provided by [NPR](#) (1/27, 1.92M), the [Las Vegas \(NV\) Review-Journal](#) (1/27, 676K), [BuzzFeed](#) (1/27, 6.47M), and [Curbed](#) (1/27, 419K).

***American Geophysical Union Urges Federal Agencies To Adhere To Scientific Integrity.*** [Politico Pro](#) (1/27) reports that the American Geophysical Union sent a letter to federal agencies Thursday “urging them to adhere to their own scientific integrity principles and not limit public access to information.” CEO Christine McEntee wrote, “We look forward to seeing the restrictions lifted soon so that critical, up-to-date scientific information remains readily available to the public.”

***Egan: In Trump Era, Useful Information From Public Employees Silenced.*** In his [New York Times](#) (1/27, Egan, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) column, Timothy Egan says that at the inauguration it “seemed obvious that the crowd for President Trump was not nearly as large as that for Barack Obama in 2009.” Egan adds, “This small act of historical clarification by the keepers of our sacred sites and shared spaces would have been no big deal, had not the response from the new president sounded like an edict from the Dear Leader.” Pointing to the Badlands National Park tweet “about more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than any time in the last 650,000 years,” Egan says that in the Trump era, “snippets of useful information from dedicated public employees are more like the signals that a survivor’s beacon sends out after being buried by an avalanche. In this case, the beeps represent science, history, facts.”

***Editorial: Silencing NPS Doesn’t Serve The Public.*** The [Longmont \(CO\) Times-Call](#) (1/29, 1K) editorializes that “stifling the voices of the National Park Service and the science done in an effort to protect the parks will not serve the people who love our parks today, nor the generations for whom we must preserve them.”

**ZINKE TO REVIEW NEW MONUMENT DESIGNATIONS.** The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (1/28, 676K) reports that at his confirmation hearing, Interior nominee Ryan Zinke said that he plans to review “Obama’s controversial new monuments – Gold Butte in Nevada and Bears Ears in Utah.” However,

"Zinke pledged to meet with officials in those states before weighing in on whether the Trump administration should try to rescind the designations."

**Hatch: Trump Eager To Undo Federal Protections For Bears Ears.** The [Washington Post](#) (1/27, Eilperin, 11.43M) reports Sen. Orrin Hatch said that President Trump is "eager to work with" Republican lawmakers on undoing new federal protections for Bears Ears in Utah. Hatch, "who met with Trump Thursday, said Friday that he had spoken with Trump 'and one of the issues I raised very strongly was Bears Ears.'" In a statement, he "noted the president's interior secretary nominee, Rep. Ryan Zinke (R-Mont.), has already pledged 'that his first trip after confirmation would be to Utah to get right to work with us on addressing this travesty.'"

**Utah Legislators Advance Anti-Monument Resolutions.** The [Deseret \(UT\) News](#) (1/27, 362K) reports members of Utah's House Rules Committee met Friday to vote on "a pair of anti-monument resolutions that ask President Donald Trump to rescind the 2016 Bears Ears National Monument designation and Congress to drastically shrink the Grand Staircase-Escalante monument declared 20 years ago." The committee voted "6-2 along partisan lines to move HCR11 and HCR12 directly to the floor for debate."

**ZINKE COULD MOVE FOREST SERVICE TO INTERIOR.** [Politico Pro](#) (1/27, Subscription Publication) reports that Interior Secretary nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke, "who has criticized federal forest fire management, has privately floated the idea of asking Congress to transfer the Agriculture Department's Forest Service to the Interior, according to sources." However, Zinke "would face an uphill battle convincing lawmakers that transferring the authority over to the agency, altering the existing laws governing it and consolidating Interior and Forest Service regulations was worth the time and expense."

**ZINKE SOFTENS COMMITMENT TO COAL LEASING REVIEW.** [Politico Pro](#) (1/27, Subscription Publication) reports that Interior nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke "weakened his position on the Bureau of Land Management's review of its coal leasing program in written answers to lawmakers' questions." According to the article, "at his nomination hearing last week, Zinke said he believes the 'review is good,' although he admitted to not knowing the specifics." However, "in response to a question about continuing the review, Zinke was less committal." He wrote, "I have not personally reviewed the Federal Coal Programmatic EIS scoping report published by the Bureau of Land Management. If confirmed, I will work to ensure that decisions are based on objective science and transparency. I will examine the scoping document and visit with the Bureau of Land Management and determine the appropriate next steps to be taken as part of the NEPA process."

**ZINKE PLANS TO REVIEW ALL INTERIOR CLIMATE SCIENCE CENTERS.** [Politico Pro](#) (1/27, Subscription Publication) reports that Interior nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke told the Senate Energy and Natural Resources committee "in his written answers that he plans to review the work of all eight of the Interior Department's climate science centers." Zinke wrote, "I value and support collaboration with public and private research institutions. As mentioned at the confirmation hearing, I believe that programs are most effective when they operate according to 'clear and precise' goals. I look forward to a complete review of the eight DOI Climate Science Centers and their results over the past six years as we develop an agenda for moving forward."

**ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY INITIATIVES EYED FOR BUDGET CUTS.** [E&E](#) (1/27) reports that "President Trump and congressional Republicans are expected to take a hatchet to the federal budget — with major cuts likely coming soon for some of the Obama administration's top environmental and energy initiatives." An outline by the Heritage Foundation would "prevent the net addition of new public lands to the federal portfolio and would rev up energy production on existing federal properties." However, "an effort to target the LWCF could see opposition from Interior Secretary-designee Ryan Zinke, whose support for the program has won him accolades from Democrats and environmentalists."

**GREEN GROUPS ORGANIZING TO CHALLENGE TRUMP, REPUBLICANS, IN COURT.** The [AP](#) (1/29, Webber, Flesher) reports that advocacy groups nationwide are hiring more staff lawyers, coordinating with private attorneys and volunteers to defend against "what they fear will be a wave of unfavorable policies concerning climate change, wildlife protection, federal lands and pollution." President Trump's first week in office "only heightened their anxieties," and donations to advocacy groups have begun

increasing. Doug Ericksen, communications director for Trump's transition team at EPA, said environmentalists are "stoking fear of Trump as a fundraising tool." The AP reports that House Republicans introduced a rules "barring coal mining companies from damaging streams and to remove some wolves from the endangered species list."

**GRIJALVA VISITS NEW MEXICO IN FIGHT AGAINST ROLLBACK ATTEMPTS.** [E&E](#) (1/27) reports that "as Republicans on Capitol Hill and the Trump administration contemplate how to roll back some of the national monuments created under the Antiquities Act, Democratic Rep. Raúl Grijalva of Arizona is urging voters in the Southwest to 'build a united front' to combat such efforts." Grijalva was set to address residents in New Mexico last Friday, "the final stop on a three-day tour of the state's national monuments that has included Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, White Sands National Monument and Bandelier National Monument." Grijalva said, "The fight is going to be a localized fight as much as it is a nationalized fight. The more support and the more of a pushback we have from local communities to local delegations will protect these assets."

**INTERIOR MAKING PLANS IN CASE ENTERPRISE INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES CONTRACT FALLS SHORT.** [Federal Computer Week](#) (1/27, 263K) reports that the Interior Department "apparently is concerned that the General Services Administration's Enterprise Infrastructure Services contract might not be able to serve all the phone line needs of its far-flung operations." According to the article, "awards in the \$50 billion EIS contract are expected this spring." Interior stated in a new sources sought notice, "A primary concern to DOI is the fact that GSA EIS contract holders may not have the capability to provide coverage nationwide to every location where DOI has voice communication services."

**FEDERAL WEBSITES SEE SPIKE IN DOWNLOADS RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE.** The [Washington Post](#) (1/27, Kaplan, 11.43M) reports that according to data from [analytics.usa.gov](#), several pages related to climate change have seen a spike in traffic in the week since President Trump's inauguration. "As of Friday morning, a National Park Service report about the agency's 'Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy' was the most downloaded document from a government website." At EPA, nine of the top ten downloads were related to climate change.

**NYTIMES ANALYSIS: US HEARTLAND AVOIDS DISCUSSING CLIMATE CHANGE OPENLY.** A more than 2,950 word [New York Times](#) (1/28, Tabuchi, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) analysis reports that climate change has become a "critical business issue" with the "economic realities of agriculture" in "America's breadbasket and conservative heartland." Farmers in the region "focus on practical issues like erosion or dwindling aquifers," but generally don't mention the term climate change. The Times says that "politics and social pressure make frank discussion complicated," with "conservative orthodoxy maintain[ing] that the science isn't settled."

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: CHAFFETZ PROPOSES PUBLIC LAND SELL-OFFS.** Additional coverage that Rep. Jason Chaffetz has introduced seeking the disposal of 3.368 million acres in 10 states was provided by the [Men's Journal](#) (1/27, 12.47M).

**OBAMA THANKED FOR STEWARDSHIP OF PUBLIC LANDS.** In an op-ed for the [Denver Post](#) (1/27, 778K), Jamie Williams, the president of The Wilderness Society, writes that "the American West should be grateful to President Barack Obama" for "his stewardship of land and waters" and "his conservation efforts in the Western United States." Williams also notes that Obama "took up long-overdue energy reforms on the public lands that are owned by all Americans, and he connected the dots between energy development and the greenhouse gases produced by it that contribute to climate change."

**EXPANSION OF CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT DEFENDED.** In an editorial, the [Medford \(OR\) Mail Tribune](#) (1/27, 92K) says that Jackson County commissioners, "smarting from the expansion of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, are turning to the new Donald Trump administration, hoping to win changes in the Antiquities Act that allowed President Barack Obama to expand the monument." While it acknowledges that "some changes in the Antiquities Act may be warranted," the paper argues that "there are good reasons to retain the monument and its expansion." It also argues that "if Congress wants to modify the Antiquities Act, say, to require public hearings, it should do so for the entire country, not carve out state-specific exemptions."

**SENATE COMMITTEE CRITICIZED FOR DELAY ON ZINKE'S CONFIRMATION VOTE.** In an editorial, the [Missoulian \(MT\)](#) (1/27, 114K) gave "chokecherries" to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee for the "unnecessary delay on voting to confirm U.S. Rep. Ryan Zinke, R-Montana, as secretary of the Interior."

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION EXPECTED TO BE FRIENDLIER TO MINING INTERESTS.** In an op-ed for the [Wyoming Tribune Eagle](#) (1/28, 44K), Annette Woofenden writes that "instead of being an ally to the soda ash industry and sharing in the pride of this special American export, in recent years our federal government became an adversary." According to Woofenden, the Interior Department "opposed multiple efforts to reduce royalty fees" and "outgoing Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell stated repeatedly that the department owed a duty to the public to 'maximize fair return to taxpayers.'" Woofenden expects Interior nominee Rep. Ryan Zinke will "likely take a more balanced approach to managing our nation's public resources, while keeping in mind our industries' needs to be competitive."

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION URGED TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL FORESTS.** For the "Congress" blog of [The Hill](#) (1/27, Smith, 1.25M), Nick Smith, executive director of Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities, writes that "by putting more Americans back to work on our federally-owned forests, the president can restore economic opportunity while protecting public lands for the future." Smith says that "the president is off to a good start by appointing Ryan Zinke and Sonny Perdue to lead the departments of Interior and Agriculture, respectively," because "both recognize the needs of our rural forested communities and their deep connection to federal forest lands. Both recognize we can responsibly utilize our natural resources while upholding important conservation values." Smith offers "a few steps the Trump administration and Congress can take to improve the management of our federal forests, while keeping our public lands healthy, productive and accessible." He urges them to give "the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management the policy tools, legal tools and resources to actively manage more of our forest lands." Smith also calls for the end to "the so-called budgetary gimmick of 'fire borrowing' that forces agencies to raid non-fire accounts to pay for growing wildfire suppression costs." Finally, he writes that "the administration and Congress should modernize National Environmental Policy Act and other federal laws and regulations to make land management more efficient and to increase the pace and scale of forest projects."

## **America's Great Outdoors:**

### ***National Park Service:***

**NPS IN MIDDLE OF CROWD SIZE DEBATE.** [E&E](#) (1/27) reports that "more than two decades ago, then-Park Police Chief Bob Langston made a decision: no more crowd counts from the National Park Service." The NPS director at the time, Roger Kennedy, "agreed, and NPS hasn't given a crowd estimate since." The park service "limits itself to the vague; it confirms that crowds were big or small but never delves into the realm of numbers." However, "now NPS finds itself back in the middle of the crowd size debate, an unwilling participant in a political tug of war."

Additional coverage as provided by the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (1/27, Daly, 272K), [NPR](#) (1/27, 1.92M), [CBS News](#) (1/27, 4.4M), [ABC News](#) (1/27, 3.09M), [MSNBC](#) (1/27, 8.33M), [Fox News](#) (1/26, 11.07M), [CNBC](#) (1/27, 2.17M), [Fortune](#) (1/27, 7.12M), [MarketWatch](#) (1/27, 767K), and [TIME](#) (1/27, 6.98M).

**NPS RESPONSE TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT ISSUE CALLED "A MIXED BAG".** The [Arizona Daily Sun](#) (1/29, 49K) reports after "a 13-page federal investigative report was released" on sexual harassment allegations at Grand Canyon National Park, the NPS "responded with a 18-item list of reforms and, a year later, it reports that it has completed or is at work on the majority of items." According to the article, "current and former employees, when asked about the park's progress, laud the agency for what it has accomplished." However, they also "point to federal disciplinary policies and ingrained agency attitudes that failed to halt the workplace misconduct and appear to be changing much more slowly."

**BILL WOULD APPROVE SALE OF WYOMING LAND INSIDE GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK.** The



[Jackson Hole \(WY\) News & Guide](#) (1/29, 1K) reports that “state lawmakers have set their eyes on selling the last remaining tract of Wyoming property inside Grand Teton National Park to the federal government.” According to the article, “partly at the behest of Gov. Matt Mead, legislators have introduced a bill that would allow four years to come up with \$46 million for the 640-acre parcel located along the Teton park boundary near Kelly.” Senate File 119 is “restricted to a straight cash sale.”

The [Jackson Hole \(WY\) News & Guide](#) (1/28, 1K) reports that “the federal government will have to fork over only \$500,000 instead of \$4.6 million in a nonrefundable deposit to acquire a square mile of Wyoming-owned land near Kelly.” That was the result of “an amendment added to Senate File 119, which authorizes selling the 640-acre tract to the U.S. Department of Interior for no less than \$46 million.”

**PUBLIC AGENCIES RESTRICT INFORMATION ABOUT GATLINBURG WILDFIRES.** [USA Today](#) (1/29, Jacobs, 5.28M) reports that “less than three weeks after a firestorm struck Gatlinburg, the Sevier County prosecutor decided the public had gotten all the information it was going to get about the disaster.” According to the article, “all local, state and federal agencies involved in the disaster were asked to deny any further information or records to the public.” Fourth Judicial District Attorney General Jimmy Dunn “on Dec.15 issued a two-page letter stating the prosecution of two juveniles accused of starting the fire could be jeopardized by the release of any more information.” As a result, “otherwise public records in any way connected to the investigation of the fires that started in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and five days later swept into Gatlinburg were deemed off limits.”

**LOS ANGELES FREEWAY CLAIMS THIRD MOUNTAIN LION IN TWO MONTHS.** The [AP](#) (1/27, 1.27M) reports that “a vehicle struck and killed an orphaned mountain lion on the same stretch of Los Angeles-area freeway where her mother and one of her two siblings died separately in December, wildlife authorities said Friday.” According to the article, “the death of the 8-month-old lion this month again illustrated the hazards that cougars face living among urban sprawl and networks of roads that are barriers to territorial roaming and genetic diversity among the puma populations.” National Park Service researchers “who are studying lions in the region identified it as a kitten designated P-51.”

Coverage by the AP was also picked up by [Philly \(PA\)](#) (1/27, 942K), the [San Francisco \(CA\) Chronicle](#) (1/27, 2.2M), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (1/27, 1.02M), the [Washington \(DC\) Times](#) (1/27, 272K), and the [Daily Mail](#) (1/27, 4.59M).

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: FUNDS AWARDED FOR UNDERREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES THROUGH HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND.** Additional coverage of the “\$500,000 in grants to help fund projects across the country to increase the number of listings associated with communities that are underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places” was provided by the [Selma \(AL\) Times Journal](#) (1/27, 22K).

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: EFFORT SEEKS TO REINTRODUCE CALIFORNIA CONDORS TO WILD.** Additional coverage of the effort to reintroduce the California condor to the wild was provided by the [SFist](#) (1/27, 116K).

#### ***Fish and Wildlife Service:***

**TRUMP LIKELY TO REVERSE RESTRICTION ON LEAD BULLETS IN WILDLIFE REFUGES.** The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/27, Palazzolo, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports a January 19 regulation issued by the head of the US Fish and Wildlife Service would prohibit lead ammunition and fishing tackle from national wildlife refuges by 2022. However, the Journal says the regulation could provide Trump an early opportunity to weigh in on gun policy, noting that the Trump campaign received \$26 million in ad support from the NRA, an organization that has called on the swift nomination of Rep. Ryan Zinke as Interior Secretary so he can reverse government overreach.

**Oversight Republicans Demand Documents On Ban.** [E&E](#) (1/27) reports that Republicans on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee are asking for documents from the Fish and Wildlife Service “about a controversial plan to phase out lead ammunition and fishing tackle on wildlife refuges.” In a letter to Jim Kurth, the acting director of FWS, Chairman Jason Chaffetz and Subcommittee

on the Interior, Energy and Environment Chairman Blake Farenthold wrote, “As I understand it, FWS issued this order abruptly with little or no input from interested parties on the last full day of the previous administration.” They continued, “The Committee questions the cost and burden that this order would place on sportsmen who recreate on FWS land. We are also interested in knowing the considerations weighed in the preparation of this order.”

**Additional Coverage.** Additional coverage of the ban was provided by [Fox News](#) (1/27, 11.07M), the [Pittsburgh \(PA\) Post-Gazette](#) (1/29, 493K), the [London \(KY\) Sentinel Echo](#) (1/27, 23K), the [Marshall \(MN\) Independent](#) (1/29, 17K), the [Pittsburgh \(PA\) Post-Gazette](#) (1/29, 493K), the [Yakima \(WA\) Herald-Republic](#) (1/29, 88K), [The East Oregonian](#) (1/27, 24K), the [Duluth \(MN\) News Tribune](#) (1/29, 134K), the [New Bedford \(MA\) Standard-Times](#) (1/28, 69K), [Outdoor Life Magazine](#) (1/27, 4.37M), [Florida Sportsman Magazine](#) (1/26, 21K), and [AmmoLand](#) (1/27, 15K).

**ENDANGERED ANIMALS WOULD BE BLOCKED BY TRUMP’S BORDER WALL.** The [Washington Post](#) (1/27, Fears, 11.43M) reports that the border wall proposed by President Trump would block “dozens of animal species that migrate freely across the international line in search of water, food and mates would be walled off.” The article says “at a time when the Trump administration has restricted communications from the Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies, federal agencies may be reluctant to weigh in on any topic in a way that appears critical of the president’s ambitions.” However, “outside the government, scientists who’ve studied how 670 miles of walls and fences erected as part of the Secure Fence Act under former president George W. Bush in 2006 tell stories of animals stopping in their tracks, staring at barriers they couldn’t cross.”

Additional coverage was provided by [Sputnik News](#) (1/28, 48K).

**BOGUE CHITTO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE TO CLOSE TEMPORARILY.** The [AP](#) (1/27, 272K) reports that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service “says it’s closing Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge due to high levels of the Pearl River.” The decision, “announced Thursday, will affect primitive-weapon and archery deer seasons on the federal tract, but not waterfowl season.”

**FWS LIFTS BOATING WAKE RESTRICTIONS AT HAVASU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.** The [AP](#) (1/27, 272K) reports that “federal wildlife officials say they will be reopening next month the half-mile of backwater in Lake Havasu Wildlife Refuge that was abruptly closed to boaters in May 2015.” The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that “it will lift wake restrictions in the secluded area north of Mesquite Bay on Feb. 1.”

**KEY DEER OUTFITTED WITH RADIO COLLARS IN BATTLE AGAINST SCREWORM OUTBREAK.** The [AP](#) (1/27, 272K) reports that “wildlife officials have fitted 30 female Key deer with radio tracking collars amid a screwworm infestation threatening the endangered herd.” According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, “the flexible vinyl collars were made specifically for the deer that only grow to the size of large dogs.” Officials say “the collars will help them monitor does and fawns that may be more vulnerable to screwworms during the fawning season.”

**AVIAN CHOLERA KILLING BIRDS AT McNARY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.** The [AP](#) (1/27, 272K) reports that “an outbreak of avian cholera has killed about 500 birds at the McNary National Wildlife Refuge in south-central Washington this week.” Dan Haas of the Mid-Columbia River National Wildlife Refuge Complex “says the disease is not unusual in cold and wet weather but birds are susceptible this year because the cold and snow have left them stressed.”

**FWS RELEASES FISH AT COLEMAN HATCHERY.** The [Red Bluff \(CA\) Daily News](#) (1/28, 578) reports that rain “didn’t slow down the Coleman National Fish Hatchery’s scheduled week-long efforts to release 600,000 year-old steelhead into a Sacramento River location near Red Bluff.” Brett Galyean, project leader at Coleman, “directed efforts to load, truck and then release the fish in heavy rain at the Bend Bridge Boat Ramp in Red Bluff beginning Jan. 3.” According to Galyean, “stormy weather, high river flows and turbidity are excellent release conditions that help expedite the steelhead migration to the Pacific Ocean.”



**REWARD INCREASED TO \$15,000 FOR MISSING ENDANGERED SALAMANDERS.** The [AP](#) (1/28, 272K) reports that “a reward for the return hundreds of endangered salamanders missing for two months from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aquatic center in Central Texas has been boosted to \$15,000.”

Additional coverage was provided by [KSAT-TV](#) San Antonio (1/27, 96K).

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: LESSER LONG-NOSED BAT COULD BE REMOVED FROM ENDANGERED LIST.** Additional coverage that the lesser long-nosed bat is “proposed for removal from the endangered species list because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says its known population has skyrocketed in the past 30 years,” was provided by the [Arizona Daily Star](#) (1/28, 270K).

**FATE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT UNCERTAIN UNDER TRUMP.** For the “Congress” blog of [The Hill](#) (1/27, Carmichael, 1.25M), Cassandra Carmichael, Executive Director of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, is troubled by the use of the Endangered Species Act as “a political football.” Moreover, “in light of recent nominations to his administration and their track record,” Carmichael worries that President Trump is “going to establish a precedent of overlooking the best available science and stray even further from his party’s traditional values of conservation in favor of commercial gains.” She argues that “protecting the environment and strengthening the economy are not mutually exclusive – in fact, study after study has shown that permanent protection for our public lands actually drives economic growth.” Carmichael concludes that “if Trump truly plans to ‘Make America Great Again,’ he would be wise to embody his party’s values of common sense and tradition, and return to the days when Republicans stood for preserving our heritage – finned, feathered, four-legged and everything in between.”

#### ***Bureau of Land Management:***

**CHANGE IN BLM LEADERSHIP NOT LIKELY TO AFFECT CEMEX APPEAL OF DECISION.** The [Santa Clarita Valley \(CA\) Signal](#) (1/27, 18K) reports that “a shakeup of BLM’s top posts will not likely affect Cemex’s appeal to the bureau’s having rescinded its long-standing permits to mine Soledad Canyon, state and local officials said.” Also, “a local official expects a decision to be made within the year.” BLM spokeswoman Martha Maciel said, “The project going through appeal with Cemex does not change with the change in administration.”

**BLM TO HOST MEETINGS ON TARGET SHOOTING MANAGEMENT ON SONORAN DESERT NATIONAL MONUMENT.** The [Mesa \(AZ\) Independent](#) (1/28) reports that the Bureau of Land Management will hold “two information meetings to seek input on recreational target shooting management alternatives for the Sonoran Desert National Monument.” The meetings are scheduled for Feb. 11 and Feb. 21.

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: UTAH CONSERVATIONISTS CONDEMN POSSIBLE BLM CHIEF.** Additional coverage of the controversy over the possibility that BLM critic Mike Noel could lead the agency was provided by [KSL-TV](#) Salt Lake City (1/29, 547K).

## **Securing America’s Energy Future:**

#### ***Onshore Energy Development:***

**GOP RESOLUTIONS TO UNDO COAL, METHANE RULES “LIKELY TO PASS.”** [The Hill](#) (1/27, Henry, 1.25M) reports House Republicans are preparing to vote next week on two resolutions that would “undo” two Interior Department rules from the Obama Administration – “one protecting streams from coal mining waste and another to cut methane emissions at oil and natural gas drilling sites.” House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Rep. Rob Bishop called the rules “abusive, last minute regulations.” Because President Trump “has said he would undo federal regulations on the fossil fuel industry,” both resolutions “are likely to pass.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [AP](#) (1/28, 1.27M), the [Morning Consult](#) (1/27), [Natural Gas](#)

[Intelligence](#) (1/27, Subscription Publication), the [Washington \(DC\) Examiner](#) (1/29, Drucker, 400K), and the [Santa Fe New Mexican](#) (1/27, 39K).

**DPost: Effort To Ax Methane Rule Would Cancel Detection, Repair Measure.** With regard to Bureau of Land Management methane rules, the [Denver Post](#) (1/28, 778K) editorializes that “Congress is getting ready to use an ax where it needs a scalpel by attempting to repeal federal methane rules that took years to develop.” Rep. Rob Bishop hopes to repeal the entire rule using the Congressional Review Act, which “would also throw out important rules on leak detection and repair” and “simultaneously [prohibit] the federal agency from adopting similar rules in the future.” The Post urges Bishop and others to “reconsider repealing the entire package.”

**KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE APPLICATION RE-FILED, ECONOMIC BENEFITS ANALYZED.** The [Financial Times](#) (1/27, Crooks, Subscription Publication, 1.39M) reports that TransCanada has filed a new application to build the rejected Keystone XL pipeline, hoping that President Trump will be more favorable to its construction. The [AP](#) (1/27, Koenig, Karnowski) outlines the possible benefits of the Keystone XL pipeline, now that TransCanada has filed a new application for its construction. While the pipeline will “support about 42,100 jobs including about 3,900 workers directly involved in construction,” it will only provide 35 permanent jobs once it is built. The construction would add \$3.4 billion to the US economy, as well as “\$70 million in additional state and local taxes.” Once built, it will provide up to \$55 million in property taxes annually.

**WPost: Debating Pipelines Is “Wasted Energy.”** In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (1/27, 11.43M) calls the debate around the Keystone and Dakota Access pipelines is “stale” and “mostly irrational.” The Post argues that multiple studies show that both lines “would have negligible effects” on the environment, and accuses opponents of being “misleading” with information. The Post also criticizes President Trump for renewing focus on the projects. It concludes that the pipelines will likely be built, despite the “wasted energy” of the debate.

**TRIBES MOVE TO GAIN MORE CONTROL OVER TAXATION ON THEIR LANDS.** [Reuters](#) (1/27, Volcovici) reports Native American tribes have renewed calls to gain more control over natural resources on their lands, and they will ask Congress and President Donald Trump to prohibit state taxation of energy and resource development on reservations. While states are not permitted to tax Indians on reservations, they are allowed to tax non-Indian companies that extract resources from tribal lands. Tribes, including the Mandan, Hidatsa, Navajo and Arikara Nation argue that they should have sole authority to levy taxes on such projects because additional state taxes drive away company investment and economic development. The tribes say the states get hundreds of millions in tax revenue, while the tribes get few state services in return. [Reuters](#) (1/27) reported the tribal leaders say regulatory approvals can take as many as 50 steps on reservation lands, compared to a half dozen for wells on private property. Reservations, while covering only two percent of the country’s land, may contain up to a fifth of all US oil and gas reserves, along with coal stockpiles.

**PLAN TO RESTORE YELLOWSTONE RIVER OIL SPILL DAMAGE ANNOUNCED.** [KXLO-FM](#) Lewiston, MT (1/29) reports that the Interior Department and the state of Montana have “issued the Final Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan and Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the Exxonmobil Pipeline Company July 1, 2011 Yellowstone River Oil Spill.” Montana will be “implementing almost \$9.5 million in restoration projects on the Yellowstone River in the next few years.” A public meeting will be held on February 15 “to present the final plan and responses to comments from the community, and present more information about plan implementation.”

Additional coverage was provided by [KULR-TV](#) Billings, MT (1/27, 2K) and [KULR-TV](#) Billings, MT (1/27, 2K).

**MINING OPERATIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR OWE \$4.6 MILLION IN FINES, PENALTIES.** The [AP](#) (1/27, Virtanen) reports mining operations controlled by West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice “haven’t paid \$4.6 million in safety fines and penalties,” according to the Mine Safety and Health Administration. Most of the unpaid balance is currently at the Treasury Department for collection.

**THIRD EARTHQUAKE HITS NORTHERN OKLAHOMA FRIDAY.** The [AP](#) (1/27) reported the USGS reported a 3.1 magnitude earthquake was recorded last week near Medford in Northern Oklahoma. The quake occurred at 3:51 am on Friday, joining the 3.4 magnitude quake near Enid on Thursday and a 2.7 magnitude quake on Wednesday near Medford. No injuries or damage were reported.

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: BLM RELEASES SCOPING REPORT ON COAL LEASING REFORMS.**

Additional coverage that the Bureau of Land Management on January 11 “released a scoping report analyzing a wide range of proposed reforms to the federal coal leasing program” was provided by [JD Supra](#) (1/27, 2K).

**OP-ED: OIL LEASES THREATEN ZION NATIONAL PARK.** In an op-ed for the [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (1/28, 426K), Brooke Williams writes that the BLM has “included three parcels within the view shed of Zion National Park for lease at their oil and gas auction in June.” According to Williams, “this sale is being opposed by an environmental community, concerned about the threats of carbon development on biodiversity, wilderness and air and water quality, and by local officials worried about how 4 million visitors to Zion will feel when they see, hear and smell oil wells if they choose to explore this wild and remote section of the park.” Williams is among those “concerned about how climate disruption is degrading our future” and who are “also opposed to this lease sale, realizing that carbon must be kept ‘in the ground’ to avoid its catastrophic impacts on our climate.”

## **Empowering Native American Communities:**

**UDALL NAMES JENNIFER ROMERO SENATE INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR.** The [Los Alamos \(NM\) Daily Post](#) (1/27) reports that Sen. Tom Udall, vice chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, “announced that he has named Jennifer Romero as the committee’s Democratic staff director and chief counsel, effective immediately.” Before joining the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, Romero served under Interior Secretary Sally Jewell as senior advisor for Native Hawaiian Affairs. Romero said, “I’m honored by the opportunity to lead Senator Udall’s team on the Indian Affairs committee and look forward to working with tribes from across the country to advance their interests under his leadership. I’m especially proud to serve Indian country in my new capacity and champion Senator Udall’s dedication to improving the lives of Native Americans.”

**WINNEBAGO AND OMAHA INDIAN RESERVATIONS WANT TO BUY BACK LAND FROM TRIBE MEMBERS.** The [Omaha \(NE\) World-Herald](#) (1/30, 544K) reports that “a full-bore publicity campaign is underway on the Winnebago and Omaha Indian Reservations as part of a \$2 billion effort nationally to persuade tribal members to sell property they personally own back to the tribe.” Tony Wood, head of the Winnebago Land Corp, said, “We want to consolidate these lands under tribal ownership for the betterment of the whole community. The whole idea is to get it back to communal use.” The article notes that “the Winnebago Tribe has been allocated \$18.5 million under the federal buy-back program, and the Omaha Tribe has been given \$7.1 million.”

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE OF LAUNCH OF CULTURE AND METH DON’T MIX PROGRAM.** Additional coverage of the launch of the Culture and Meth Don’t Mix program was provided by the [Char-Koosta News](#) (1/26, 12K).

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE MOHAWK TRIBE APPLIES TO PUT LAND PARCELS INTO TRUST.**

Additional coverage that the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe “wants two parcels of land near their reservation put into trust status by the Bureau of Indian Affairs” was provided by the [Potsdam \(NY\) North Country Now](#) (1/27, 3K).

## **Office of Insular Affairs:**

**OIA TRANSMITS \$31.5M IN COMPACT FUNDING TO MARSHALL ISLANDS.** [Marianas Variety](#) (1/30) reports that the Office of Insular Affairs has “released to the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands’ Ministry of Finance Compact of Free Association payments totaling \$31,503,897 for the period October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.” Acting Assistant Interior Secretary Nik Pula said, “The U.S. and

the Marshall Islands have a unique relationship that has been mutually beneficial for our respective people. As we in the U.S. transition to a new administration, we will look forward to continuing our work and making improvements as needed.”

**ADDITIONAL COVERAGE: US VIRGIN ISLANDS AT “CRITICAL JUNCTURE”.** Additional coverage that the U.S. Virgin Islands is at “a critical juncture,” according to O.I.A. Director Nikolao Pula, was provided by the [Virgin Islands Consortium \(VIR\)](#) (1/29).

## **Tackling America’s Water Challenges:**

**MEETING HELD ON LOWER KLAMATH RIVER DAM REMOVAL.** [KTVL-TV](#) Medford, OR (1/26, 1K) reports that last Thursday was “the final night of discussions for removing dams on the Klamath River.” Residents met “to voice their opinions on the matter after arguing not enough notice was given for the meetings initially.”

The [Ashland \(OR\) Daily Tidings](#) (1/29, 42K) reports that “more than 100 people attended the last in a series of three meetings Thursday in Yreka seeking public comment on the planned removal of four dams along the Klamath River, and the overwhelming feeling expressed by Siskiyou County residents was outrage.” According to the article, “many stated that the majority of the county had spoken in favor of leaving the dams in place and believe that the government entities involved in the decision were not listening to them.” Also, “some threatened lawsuits if the dam-removal process moves forward without considering residents’ concerns.”

**LEGISLATION TO EXPAND FONTENELLE RESERVOIR REINTRODUCED.** The [AP](#) (1/29, 272K) reports that “Wyoming’s congressional delegation has reintroduced legislation to expand the water storage at Fontenelle Reservoir in the southwest part of the state.” Sens. John Barrasso and Mike Enzi and Rep. Liz Cheney “say expanding the reservoir’s storage is important to maintaining a reliable water supply in the region.” They claim that “the extra water will benefit farmers, ranchers and communities and help boost the local economy.”

**COURT TO HEAR ARGUMENTS IN “TAKING” CASE.** The [McClatchy](#) (1/27, 74K) reports that “Northern California and Oregon farmers who lost irrigation water in 2001 for the sake of fish are plunging into a climactic courtroom battle for tens of millions of dollars in compensation.” The trial set to start Monday in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. The article notes that the case “can have broader implications, clarifying what the government may owe for water steered away from crops toward environmental protection.”

Additional coverage was provided by the [Klamath Falls \(OR\) Herald And News](#) (1/29, 45K).

**JUDGE LIKELY TO ORDER BOR TO REDIRECT WATER FOR SALMON.** [Courthouse News](#) (1/27, 2K) reports that “a federal judge said Friday he will likely order the federal government to reallocate water, some earmarked for commercial interests, to stave off a salmon die-off on the California-Oregon border.” the Yurok and Hoopa Valley Tribes sued the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation last year, claiming its bungled management of Klamath River waterways allowed a deadly parasite to infect 91 percent of endangered juvenile Coho and Chinook salmon.”” During a hearing Friday, U.S. District Judge William Orrick III “agreed the bureau should have reviewed the project when infection rates climbed to 81 percent in 2014 and 91 percent in 2015, well beyond the maximum 49 percent estimated in a 2013 biological opinion issued by co-defendant National Marine Fisheries Service.” Orrick “said he was ‘inclined’ to grant a preliminary injunction requiring the government take immediate action until it finalizes new water management guidelines to protect salmon.”

**FRESNO APPROVES DEAL TO BUY FLOOD-RELEASE WATER FROM MILLERTON LAKE.** The [Fresno \(CA\) Bee](#) (1/27, 282K) reports that “a plentiful winter of rain and snowfall in the mountains east of Fresno is creating the potential for generating more water than the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation can store behind Friant Dam.” As a result, “the city of Fresno is poised to take advantage of flood-control releases at a deep discount, compared to the city’s normal allocation of Millerton Lake water this spring.” The

Fresno City Council on Thursday “approved an agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to buy flood flow releases from Millerton Lake starting March 1.”

## **Top National News:**

**ADMINISTRATION DEFENDS EXECUTIVE ORDERS AMID WORLDWIDE OUTRAGE.** Coverage of President Trump’s executive orders barring refugees and travelers from seven predominantly Muslim nations continues to be extensive and extremely negative toward the Administration. Reports cast the policy as hastily implemented, leading to chaos at airports, and highlight condemnation from around the world and from prominent members of both parties. Feature stories on detained children, divided families, and Iraqis who provided support to the US during the war being refused entry also reflect negatively on the White House. Other pieces examine why those seven countries in particular were selected and others omitted, and on Rudy Giuliani’s statement that the President had sought a legal means to impose a “Muslim ban.”

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/29, story 3, 2:25, Llamas, 14.63M), David Wright reported, “As the outrage reached the White House doorstep today, the Trump Administration is pushing back. A new statement tonight: ‘This is not about religion, this is about terror and keeping our country safe.’ ... Until today, the battle over the borders has been fiercely partisan, the Democrats voicing loud opposition.” But “now, a growing number of Republicans taking issue, too, some of them agreeing with the Democrats that the new executive order could be counterproductive, making America less safe.” Sen. John McCain: “I think the effect will probably, in some areas, give ISIS some more propaganda.” On the [CBS Weekend News](#) (1/29, story 2, 2:10, Quijano), Errol Barnett reported that the President “said Saturday it is something that should have been in place for a long time.”

The [AP](#) (1/29) reports that the President defended the order, saying “in a statement Sunday amid widespread protests that ‘America is a proud nation of immigrants.’ He says the country ‘will continue to show compassion to those fleeing oppression,’ but ‘while protecting our own citizens and border.’” [Reuters](#) (1/29, Holland, Chiacu) reports that Trump, “trying to quell a backlash,” said the US would resume issuing visas “to all countries once secure policies are put in place” over the next 90 days.

[USA Today](#) (1/29, Jackson, 5.28M) says Trump and aides “spent Sunday defending their ban on refugees...as a counter-terrorism measure, all in the face of lawsuits, congressional criticism, and mass protests.” The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Dennis, Markon, 11.43M) reports under the headline “Trump Defends Executive Order: ‘This Is Not A Muslim Ban’” that Trump “compared his order to action taken by then-President Obama in 2011 to give new scrutiny to visas for Iraqi refugees, though by almost any measure Trump’s order was far more sweeping.”

[Politico](#) (1/29, Toosi, Kim, 2.46M) says Trump “doubled down” on his policy, though Chief of Staff Priebus “walked back one major element of the order, signaling a growing sense of confusion and fissures within the 10-day-old administration.” Politico says the Administration’s “mixed messages were abundant as global outrage grew over the order. ... Thousands gathered outside the White House to demand Trump rescind what they called the ‘Muslim ban,’” and “prominent Republicans and foreign leaders chided Trump, warning the order could backfire by inspiring terrorists.” [Bloomberg Politics](#) (1/29, Brody, 201K) and [The Hill](#) (1/29, Savransky, 1.25M) also cover Trump’s statement.

On [CBS’ Face The Nation](#) (1/29, Dickerson, 4.61M), Priebus said, “What people need to understand is 325,000 foreign travelers came into the United States. About 109 of those people were detained for further questioning. They came from the identified seven countries that harbor and train terrorists. They were asked questions. The vast majority of the people were released.” On [NBC’s Meet The Press](#) (1/29, Todd, 157K), Priebus said, “As far as green card holders moving forward, it doesn’t affect them.”

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Shear, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says Priebus “appeared to reverse a key part” of the order by saying green card holders from the affected countries would not be prevented from returning to the US, but “also said that border agents had ‘discretionary authority,’” which “seemed to add to the uncertainty” over the continued enforcement of the order. The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Phillip,



Snell, 11.43M) also says Priebus “appeared to pull back one of the most controversial elements of the order.” The [Los Angeles Times](#) (1/29, Parsons, 4.52M) headlines its report on Priebus’ comments “White House Seems To Back Down On Part Of New Vetting Policy.”

The [AP](#) (1/29, Colvin) writes that Trump senior adviser Kellyanne Conway called the problems caused by the visa ban “a small price to pay’ to keep the nation safe, but it’s unclear whether the order...will accomplish that,” since it “does not address homegrown extremists already in America,” and omits Saudi Arabia, “where most of the Sept. 11 hijackers were from.” [Mic](#) (1/29, Durkee, 554K) reports that Conway “sharply dismissed the decision of the federal judge who granted a stay.” Conway said, “The stay of order doesn’t really affect the executive order at all, because the executive order is meant to be prospective, it’s preventing, not detaining.”

On [Fox News Sunday](#) (1/29, Wallace), Conway said, “If they’re not dangerous, if they are not a threat, then they will be disposed of – their situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. I was stopped many times after 9/11, weren’t you? I didn’t resemble, or share a name with any kind of conspiracy, but this is what we do to keep the nation safe. I mean, this whole idea that they’re being separated and ripped from their families, it’s temporary.”

[USA Today](#) (1/29, 5.28M) says in an editorial, “In President Trump’s dark view of America, thousands of shadowy foreigners from the Middle East are infiltrating our neighborhoods and waiting for an opportunity to kill us. ... This kind of indiscriminate fear-mongering is bad enough as campaign rhetoric. It’s outright harmful to innocent people when ham-handedly translated into White House policy.” The order is also “strangely arbitrary. The 9/11 terrorists were from Egypt, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, all of which were exempted from the order. And since 9/11, no one has been killed in the USA as a result of a terrorist attack by an emigrant from the seven targeted nations.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) is also critical, saying in an editorial that the policy was rushed and overly broad, and seemed designed to create chaos.

**Kelly: Entry Of “Lawful Permanent Residents” Is In National Interest.** [Reuters](#) (1/29, Raymond, Rosenberg, Stempel) reports that federal judges in at least five states have blocked enforcement of the order, and [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/29, story 2, 2:10, Llamas, 14.63M) added that the “attorneys general of more than a dozen states [are] condemning the order.” The [Washington Times](#) (1/29, Dinan, 272K) reports that DHS said early Sunday that it is “following through on the executive order” despite the courts’ actions. However, [The Hill](#) (1/29, Master, 1.25M) reports that DHS Secretary Kelly “declared ‘the entry of lawful permanent residents to be in the national interest’ in a Sunday evening statement.”

**Giuliani Says Trump Wanted A “Muslim Ban.”** The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Wang, 11.43M) reports that Rudy Giuliani, appearing on Fox News on Saturday evening, “said President Trump wanted a ‘Muslim ban’ and requested he assemble a commission to show him ‘the right way to do it legally.’” Giuliani said, “So when [Trump] first announced it, he said, ‘Muslim ban.’ He called me up. He said, ‘Put a commission together. Show me the right way to do it legally.’ ... We focused on, instead of religion, danger – the areas of the world that create danger for us. Which is a factual basis, not a religious basis. Perfectly legal, perfectly sensible.” [Mic](#) (1/29, Durkee, 554K) reports on the comments under the headline “Rudy Giuliani Admitted Trump’s ‘Extreme Vetting’ Is Actually Just A Muslim Ban.”

On [CBS’ Face The Nation](#) (1/29, Dickerson, 4.61M), Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN), a Muslim and candidate for Democratic National Committee chair, said, “We’ve never have had a religious-based ban before. This is a Muslim ban, they can’t deny it. On the campaign trail he said he wanted a Muslim ban. He said on national television there would be other religious groups receiving priority. This is a Muslim ban. Rudy Giuliani, who helped him write it said they started with a Muslim ban, and then sort of languaged it up to avoid that label.”

**Confusion Abounds In Wake Of Executive Orders And Court Responses.** On its website, [CNN](#) (1/29, Perez, Brown, Liptak, 29.79M) examines the “confusion” surrounding the executive order, writing that when it was announced, “Administration officials weren’t immediately sure which countries’ citizens” would be affected, and DHS “was left making a legal analysis on the order after Trump signed it.” CNN says the confusion exposed “the pitfalls of an administration largely operated by officials with scant

federal experience.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Jordan, Hughes, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) headlines a front-page report “Donald Trump’s Immigration Ban Sows Chaos,” writing that the policy was being followed differently at different airports, and that the court orders were being treated differently in different places as well.

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Shear, Nixon, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) writes, “The global confusion that has since erupted is the story of a White House that rushed to enact, with little regard for basic governing, a core campaign promise that Mr. Trump made to his most fervent supporters.” Customs and border control officials “got instructions at 3 a.m. Saturday and some arrived at their posts later that morning still not knowing how to carry out the president’s orders.” Even Defense Secretary Mattis “did not see a final version of the order until Friday morning, only hours before Mr. Trump arrived to sign it at the Pentagon.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, A1, Nicholas, Paletta, Barrett, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says on its front page that the policy was in the works even before Election Day, but remained a close-held secret within Trump’s inner circle.

The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Selk, 11.43M) profiles Judge Ann Donnelly of the US District Court for the Eastern District of New York, who “after a year and a week on the federal bench...became known across the world as the first judge to block Trump’s order.” The [Daily Caller](#) (1/29, Pfeiffer, 898K) says Donnelly was appointed by President Obama in 2015.

**NYTimes Analysis: Litigation Could Last For Years.** Adam Liptak of the [New York Times](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) writes that though the judicial branch responded “with what by legal standards was lightning speed,” the court orders “were just the initial steps in litigation that may last for years.” The courts “did not rule on the larger question of whether Mr. Trump’s executive order was lawful” and “gave only the most preliminary hints” about whether the courts will strike down the order. But the ACLU and other civil liberties groups “were savoring their victories in these early skirmishes.”

**Senate Democrats To Introduce Legislation To Reverse Executive Orders.** The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, O’Keefe, 11.43M) reports that Senate Minority Leader Schumer said Democrats will introduce legislation to reverse the executive orders. Schumer “choked up as he described the chaos the orders had caused” and said, “We will fight this. Many of you may not know this – my middle name is Ellis. I was named after Uncle Ellis who was named after Ellis Island. This fight’s in my bones. It’s on my birth certificate.” Sen. Christopher Murphy suggested that the President’s action violate the 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act, and said Democrats “must now ‘force a debate’ this week on Trump’s orders by slowing the consideration of all of his remaining Cabinet nominees, especially” Secretary of State-designate Tillerson.

[The Hill](#) (1/29, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that Sen. Dianne Feinstein, ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, [said via Twitter](#) that she will introduce two bills today to rescind the order and limit Trump’s authority on the matter. [Politico](#) (1/29, Kim, Romm, 2.46M) reports on the coming legislation.

Senate Minority Whip Durbin said on [Fox News Sunday](#) (1/29, Wallace), “First, it was an impulsive move by the President, without follow-through to the Department of Homeland Security. ... Number two, going after these refugees, these are the most carefully vetted visitors to anyone who comes to our airports, including this ban on Syrian refugees when we have had no examples, not one, of a Syrian refugees engaging in terrorism in the United States. And the third point...was the suggestion by the President that somehow we are going to favor Christians, and in some cases banning Muslims in the future. That is exactly the opposite message we will send to our allies and those who want to do us harm around the world.”

**Some “Top Republicans” Criticize Policy.** The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports, “Some top Republicans stepped up their criticism of President Trump’s newly enacted refugee policy,” though “party leaders in Congress continued to show restraint.” In addition to McCain, Sens. Susan Collins, Lindsey Graham, Orrin Hatch, Rob Portman, and Ben Sasse have been somewhat critical. Senate Majority Leader McConnell “did not criticize the order itself but said the country needed to ‘be careful’ with how it is carried out.”

On [ABC's This Week](#) (1/29, Raddatz, 6.61M), McConnell said, "To the extent they're trying to improve the vetting process, I think that's in order. We need to bear in mind that we don't have religious tests in this country and we also need to remember that some of our best allies in the war against Islamic terrorism are Muslims." The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Snell, Phillip, 11.43M) says McConnell "strongly opposed the concept of a Muslim ban when Trump touted the idea during the campaign."

[Reuters](#) (1/29, Cornwell) reports that McCain and Graham said the order "may do more to help recruit terrorists than improve US security." In a joint statement, they said, "This executive order sends a signal, intended or not, that America does not want Muslims coming into our country. That is why we fear this executive order may do more to help terrorist recruitment than improve our security." McCain said on [CBS' Face The Nation](#) (1/29, Dickerson, 4.61M), "It is a confused process, which the good news is it's only got to do with a pause. The bad news is, obviously this process and conclusions were not vetted." The [Daily Caller](#) (1/29, Collins, 898K) reports that Trump criticized McCain and Graham, [tweeting](#) that they "are sadly weak on immigration."

[Reuters](#) (1/29, Wroughton) reports that Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Bob Corker said in statement, "We all share a desire to protect the American people, but this executive order has been poorly implemented, especially with respect to green card holders." [USA Today](#) (1/29, Singer, 5.28M) reports that Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA) said of the order, "This is ridiculous. I guess I understand what his intention is, but unfortunately the order appears to have been rushed through without full consideration." Even Rep. Raúl Labrador (R-ID), who "strongly supported the intent of Trump's order," criticized its implementation, saying, "The Administration...could have done a better job of implementing this executive order." [McClatchy](#) (1/29, Lightman, 574K) and [Politico](#) (1/29, Everett, Bresnahan, 2.46M) also report on the GOP response.

***Protesters Turn Out In Large Numbers Across Nation And At Airports.*** Both ABC and CBS – NBC did not air – led their Sunday evening newscasts with demonstrations against the ban across the nation. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/29, lead story, 3:30, Llamas, 14.63M) reported on the "major backlash" and "outrage," with "large demonstrations" in Boston, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, and other cities. ABC's Eva Pilgrim: "Protests erupting from coast to coast over President Trump's immigration crackdown. ... At airports, so many emotional scenes; in Dallas, a five-year-old boy back with his mother after being detained for hours." The [CBS Weekend News](#) (1/29, lead story, 5:35, Quijano) reported that the President's "travel and immigration crackdown on people from seven Muslim majority countries has caused chaos and confusion and sparked intense protests. The ACLU says 4,000 attorneys are working in shifts at the airports to get people released." CBS' Kenneth Craig: "At airports across the country, international travelers detained by authorities received a warm welcome as they stepped on to US soil. For some, there were tears, like this Iraqi woman who was reunited with her son, a US Army Ranger, after hours of uncertainty at JFK."

The [AP](#) (1/29, Hajela, Tarm) says the "immigration order sowed more chaos and outrage across the country Sunday, with travelers detained at airports, panicked families searching for relatives and protesters registering opposition to the sweeping measure." Demonstrators "gathered outside the White House," and "more than 100 protesters also gathered at the international terminal at Dulles International Airport outside Washington, cheering people arriving from Muslim countries. At the main Dallas-Fort Worth airport, some 200 people held signs and chanted, 'Let them go!'"

The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Siddiqui, Laris, Chandler, 11.43M) quotes Shohreh Rahnema, whose young son was detained for several hours at Dulles. She said, "How can a five-year old be banned? Just because his parents are Iranian? We are American too." She joined the demonstration at the White House, and said to Trump, "You cannot do this. You are our servant. The people elected you. Other countries are thirsty for the rights we have in America. We can't become a dictatorship."

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports, "The swelling anger over Mr. Trump's week-old administration is fueling a surge of spontaneous activism that some Democrats say they have not seen since the Vietnam War." Senators including Cory Booker, Bob Casey, and Elizabeth Warren joined protests at airports, as did candidates to lead the Democratic National Committee. The Times says the "growing and seemingly organic energy offers Democrats a prime opportunity to ride a

backlash to electoral success this year and next, the same way Republicans capitalized on Tea Party rage” against President Obama seven years ago.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (1/29, Queally, Panzar, Hamilton, 4.52M) says “thousands of protesters converged on Los Angeles International Airport,” while the [Boston Globe](#) (1/29, Wangsness, 1.08M) reports that some immigration lawyers are advising green card holders from the affected countries to fly back to the US through Boston “because a Massachusetts judge’s order blocking the enforcement of President Trump’s executive order offers them more protection than similar judicial orders elsewhere.” The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Bromwich, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that lawyers have also been presenting themselves at airports to offer emergency legal assistance; the [Chicago Tribune](#) (1/29, Clair, Wong, 2.54M) profiles some Chicago-area attorneys who have done so.

The [Huffington Post](#) (1/29, Gordts, Miller, Abbey-Lambertz, Wing, 237K) headlined its lead story “RELENTLESS RESISTANCE,” later updated to “AMERICA ON THE BRINK.”

***Policy Comes Under Harsh International Criticism.*** [Reuters](#) (1/29, Chmaytelli, Noueihed) reports that the “global backlash...gathered strength on Sunday as several countries including long-standing American allies criticized the measures as discriminatory and divisive. Governments from London and Berlin to Jakarta and Tehran spoke out” against Trump’s policy. German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s spokesperson said she believes that “the global fight against terrorism was no excuse for the measures and ‘does not justify putting people of a specific background or faith under general suspicion.’” British Foreign Minister Boris Johnson [tweeted](#), “Divisive and wrong to stigmatize because of nationality.”

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Smale, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that after British Prime Minister Theresa May’s “response to a question about the issue on Saturday at a news conference in Turkey prompted sharp criticism of her unwillingness to criticize Mr. Trump, her spokesman said that the British government did ‘not agree with this kind of approach and it is not one we will be taking.’” [USA Today](#) (1/29, Hjelmgaard, 5.28M) reports that French President François Hollande said, “When [Trump] refuses the arrival of refugees, while Europe has done its duty, we have to respond.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Troianovski, Douglas, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel and Dutch counterpart Bert Koenders were also among the European critics.

The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Raghavan, 11.43M) headlines a feature on the impact of people around the world “Nations Condemn Trump’s Travel Ban, As The Fallout Infects People’s Lives.” [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/29, story 5, 1:40, Llamas, 14.63M) reported on the global “ripple effect from the executive order is only starting to make some impact.” ABC’s Jim Avila reported that the US Olympic Committee is “worried that its bid to host 2020 game could be jeopardized by President Trump’s immigration policies.” NBA player Thon Maker “is a Sudanese refugee, concerned that he won’t be able to get back after games in Canada. And the Academy Award-nominated Iranian director for ‘The Salesman’ saying he won’t come [to the Oscars] because there are too many questions about his ability to return, condemning what he calls ‘unjust conditions’ in President Trump’s order.”

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Walsh, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that while the response for Europe was loud, “in Cairo and Riyadh, in the heart of the Muslim world,” Trump’s policy “was met with a conspicuous silence.” The Times says “the silence in the capitals of Muslim-majority countries unaffected by the order reflected a lack of solidarity and an enduring uncertainty” about Trump’s foreign policy. The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Miller, Ryan, 11.43M) writes, “Through inflammatory rhetoric and hastily drawn executive orders, the administration has alienated allies, including Iraq, provided propaganda fodder to terror networks that frequently portray US involvement in the Middle East as a religious crusade, and endangered critical cooperation from often hidden US partners.” ISIS has already “claimed the travel ban as a victory.”

On [ABC’s This Week](#) (1/29, Raddatz, 6.61M), White House press secretary Sean Spicer said, “We are working through all the diplomatic channels necessary to make sure our friends and allies around the globe understand that our position is to protect our borders and to make sure – again, this is about slowing the process down. Those 109 people are being processed through the system to make sure that the vetting is applied, that they didn’t do anything nefarious when they were overseas.”



In a [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M) op-ed, Hadi Ghaemi of the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran calls the travel ban on Iranians “a gift to the Islamic republic and its hard-line rulers. It will not deter terrorism on US soil...and will ironically serve the purposes of Iran’s hard-line rulers.” [Bloomberg Politics](#) (1/29, Geimann, 201K) also covers the international response.

**CREW: Ban Does Not Affect Countries Where Trump’s “Company Has Done Business.”** Norman Eisen and Richard Painter of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington write in the [New York Times](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) that “overlooked in the furor is another troubling aspect of the situation: President Trump omitted from his ban a number of other predominantly Muslim nations where his company has done business,” which “adds further illegitimacy to one of the most arbitrary executive actions in our recent history.” Some Muslim countries like Saudi Arabia “are not on the list, even though some of their citizens pose just as great a risk – if not greater – of exporting terrorism to the United States.” But these “are ones where Donald Trump has done business.”

**Christian Leaders Reject Giving Preference To Christian Immigrants.** The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Goodstein, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports under the headline “Christian Leaders Denounce Trump’s Plan To Favor Christian Immigrants” that though “over the last decade, Christians in the United States have grown increasingly alarmed about the persecution of other Christians overseas, especially in the Middle East,” if Trump “had hoped for Christian leaders to break out in cheers” about his executive orders, that is “not what he has heard so far. A broad array of clergy members has strongly denounced Mr. Trump’s order as discriminatory, misguided and inhumane,” with religious leaders saying that “by giving preference to Christians over Muslims,” Trump is pitting “one faith against another.”

**Koch Network Calls Policy “The Wrong Approach.”** The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Gold, Hohmann, 11.43M) reports, “Leaders of the influential Koch network on Sunday expressed opposition” to the policy, “saying the executive order is not in keeping with their aims to build a free and open society.” Charles Koch Foundation President Brian Hooks said, “The travel ban is the wrong approach and will likely be counterproductive. Our country has benefited tremendously from a history of welcoming people from all cultures and backgrounds.” While Charles Koch himself did not comment, he last year “called the suggestion that Trump might require Muslims to register ‘reminiscent of Nazi Germany.’” [USA Today](#) (1/29, Schouten, 5.28M) adds that Charles Koch “did not refer to either Trump or his immigration order during public remarks Sunday afternoon to the more than 550 ultra-wealthy donors” attending “the network’s annual winter summit.”

**Veterans “Dumbfounded And Furious” Over Exclusion Of Military Interpreters.** [McClatchy](#) (1/29, Bergengruen, 74K) reports, “Military veterans were dumbfounded and furious when it became clear over the weekend” that the policy “keeps out interpreters who’d risked their lives helping US forces in Iraq.” Former Marine Sgt. Andrew Biggio, who voted for Trump, said, “They better make a damn exception, because we are here because of them.” Scott Cooper, also a Marine veteran, said, “We asked them to risk their lives for us and they’re being threatened because they worked alongside us.”

The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, Raghavan, 11.43M) profiles Fuad Sharef, who “once worked for a US government subcontractor in post-invasion Iraq as a translator and a program manager.” He and his family got valid visas “after two years of vetting, through a special US resettlement program for Iraqi employees of the American government” before being taken off their plane this weekend while on their way to New York. His family is being sent back to Iraq, where they have sold their house and property. He said, “Donald Trump destroyed my life. How can he do this to people who risked their lives to help America?”

Sen. Tim Kaine said on [NBC’s Meet The Press](#) (1/29, Todd, 157K), “It does affect green card holders and they’re being caught up in it. It affects people on special immigrant visas like interpreters who helped the US military in foreign countries and now their lives are at risk and we’ve given them a special status to come to this country. Who would help the United States if they knew we would abandon them when they’re trying to come here?”

**Silicon Valley, Previously Ambivalent About Trump, Heads “To The Barricades.”** The [New York](#)



[Times](#) (1/29, Streitfeld, Isaac, Benner, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) writes that as of Friday morning, “Silicon Valley was largely ambivalent about President Trump,” but “by Saturday night, much of that optimism had yielded to anger and determination.” The executive orders “struck at the heart of Silicon Valley’s cherished values,” and “a significant part of the tech community went to the barricades.” Google co-founder Sergey Brin, who came to the US from the Soviet Union as a child, joined protesters at San Francisco International Airport, saying, “I’m here because I’m a refugee.” The heads of Airbnb, Facebook, and Netflix were also among the critics. [Business Insider](#) (1/29, Heath, 3.42M) samples some of the reaction.

**Starbucks To Hire 10,000 Refugees Over Next Five Years.** The [AP](#) (1/29, Boak) reports that Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz said in a letter to employees on Saturday that the company will hire 10,000 refugees over the next five years. Schultz said the hiring “would apply to stores worldwide and the effort would start in the United States where the focus would be on hiring immigrants ‘who have served with US troops as interpreters and support personnel.’”

**Michigan Muslims Cope With New Policy.** On its front page, the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, A1, Friess, 11.43M) looks at the ban from Dearborn, Michigan, which has one of the largest Muslim populations in the US. Nearby Hamtramck “has the country’s only majority-Muslim city council. Over the past two years, Michigan has taken in more refugees from war-torn Syria than any state except California.” Many are now worried about the safety of family members who had hoped to join them in the US.

**DeBlasio Defends New York’s Sanctuary City Status.** On [CNN’s State Of The Union](#) (1/29, Tapper, 420K), New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio explained his city’s definition as a sanctuary city. He said, “There are 170 offenses that list serious and violent crimes that lead to automatic cooperation between the City of New York and the federal partners. So any serious and violent crime, we’re going to work with them. Someone commits a minor offense, for example, right now if you don’t have clear definitions like we have, someone went through a stop sign and they could be deported for that. ... We are not going to see with half a million undocumented people here...the vast majority are law-abiding, we are not going to see families torn apart over a minor offense.”

**New Citizens Take Oath Amid National Uproar.** The [Washington Post](#) (1/29, A1, McCrummen, 11.43M) has a front-page feature on a citizenship ceremony in Fairfax County, Virginia on Saturday, “where the official photo of former president Barack Obama had been taken down and that of President Trump had yet to go up.” The President’s executive orders were a prime topic of discussion.

**ACLU Raised Nearly Five Times As Much Online On Saturday As It Usually Does In A Year.** [USA Today](#) (1/29, Dastagir, 5.28M) reports, “The American Civil Liberties Union shattered fundraising records this weekend after taking the White House to court” over the executive orders. The ACLU “received roughly 290,000 online donations totaling \$19.4 million since Saturday morning.” It “typically raises about \$4 million online in a year, according to Executive Director Anthony Romero.”

**In Last-Minute Change, 60 Minutes Re-Airs Piece On Syria.** [The Hill](#) (1/29, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that CBS changed its lineup for 60 Minutes on Sunday to “re-air an October [story](#) about refugees from the war-torn country of Syria.” The change was announced late Sunday afternoon.

**TRUMP COULD ANNOUNCE SUPREME COURT NOMINEE MONDAY.** The [AP](#) (1/29, Pace) cites “a White House official” who said President Trump could announce his nominee to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court as soon as Monday. While Trump “originally said the announcement would come on Thursday,” the official said that “timeframe could be sped up.” On [Fox News Sunday](#) (1/29, Wallace), White House senior adviser Kellyanne Conway said of the pending nomination, “I can guarantee that the promise that candidate Trump made will continue as President, that he is a pro-life President, and he has promised that he will appoint pro-life judges including to the Supreme Court.”

On [ABC’s This Week](#) (1/29, Raddatz, 6.61M), Senate Majority Leader McConnell said of the nomination, “Let me tell you what I do think we’ll get. A really outstanding nominee who will be very hard to argue against because the President has been working on this for some time. I’m privy to some of the information about what’s been happening and I think we’re going to get a great nominee who will be very

difficult to explain to the American people we're not even going to let them have an up-or-down vote in the Senate."

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M), Ron Klain, who served as chief counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee, an associate counsel to former President Bill Clinton, and an assistant to former President Barack Obama, writes that "to win the real battle for the future of the high court, the nomination and the messaging around it should be aimed" at Justice Anthony Kennedy. Klain argues that while the current nomination "will probably not change the court's balance of power," the balance could be changed if Trump is able to select another justice. Klain says Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Stephen Breyer are unlikely to retire during the Trump presidency, so "the question of whether a court-shifting pick is willingly handed to Trump rests with Kennedy" and the current battle "could influence Kennedy's decision." Klain concludes that "as this nomination battle unfolds, all players should keep an eye on the even more significant fight that could lie ahead – and the man who will decide whether it comes or not."

**WHITE HOUSE DEFENDS BANNON'S INCLUSION IN NSC MEETINGS.** After President Trump "took steps Saturday to begin restructuring the White House National Security Council," adding chief strategist Steve Bannon to the principals committee, "which includes the secretaries of state and defense," and saying that the director of national intelligence and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff would attend "where issues pertaining to their responsibilities and expertise are to be discussed," the White House defended the move on Sunday, saying Bannon's addition to the regular meetings "was essential to the commander in chief's decision-making process," the [AP](#) (1/29) reports.

The [CBS Weekend News](#) (1/29, story 2, 2:10, Quijano) reported that press secretary Sean Spicer "describes the move as essential." Appearing on [ABC's This Week](#), Spicer said "having the chief strategist for the President in those meetings who has a significant military background to help make – guide what the President's final analysis is going to be is crucial."

The [New York Times](#) (1/29, Sanger, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says Spicer argued that Bannon's "past service as a Navy officer merited his attendance at all meetings, as part of a 'streamlining' of decision-making." Spicer said, "Well, he is a former naval officer. ... He's got a tremendous understanding of the world and the geopolitical landscape that we have now." Spicer "did not explain the downgrading of the four-star general who heads the Joint Chiefs, Joseph F. Dunford Jr., who rose through the Marine Corps and served in Iraq and Afghanistan," but "when pressed on General Dunford's role," he said, "The president gets plenty of information from the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

[USA Today](#) (1/29, Jackson, 5.28M) reports White House chief of staff Priebus denied that the "revamped National Security Council will be restricted, saying intelligence and Pentagon chiefs are welcome at any meeting." Priebus told NBC's "Meet the Press" that "they're invited to be attendees of the Security Council at any time that they want to." The [Washington Times](#) (1/29, Muñoz, 272K) describes Priebus' exchange with host Chuck Todd as "heated," as Priebus "pushed back...against claims the nation's top military and intelligence leaders are barred from participating in the National Security Council."

A front-page story in the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, A1, DeYoung, 11.43M) cites "a senior NSC official," who said Bannon "is a trusted adviser. ... He's got substantial policy responsibilities, and I think it's very important that he is there to hear and to provide context to what is going on." Trump "sees Bannon as a generational peer who shares his anti-establishment instincts and confrontational style," and "several people familiar with their relationship," said Bannon "has cultivated a rapport with Trump over security issues in recent months, and impressed Trump with his grasp of policy in talks they have held together with top intelligence and military officials." However, "many outside the White House," say "the optics of Bannon's NSC appointment were bad, regardless of the motivation or the substance of his participation."

Trump's decision drew fire from both sides of the political spectrum. [Politico](#) (1/29, Everett, 2.46M) reported that Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain "harshly criticiz[ed]" Bannon's elevation to Trump's National Security Council, "calling the move 'radical' because it minimizes the role of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff." McCain told CBS' "Face the Nation," "I am worried about the National Security Council. Who are the members of it and who are the permanent members? The appointment of Mr. Bannon is something which is a radical departure from any National Security Council

in history. ... The role of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff has been diminished, I understand, with this reorganization. The one person who is indispensable would be the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in my view. ... So it's of concern, this 'reorganization.'"

[Breitbart](#) (1/29, Spiering, 2.02M) reported that former National Security Adviser Susan Rice "lashed out" at Trump over the decision, writing in a [tweet](#), "This is stone cold crazy. ... After a week of crazy. Who needs military advice or intel to make policy on ISIL, Syria, Afghanistan, DPRK?" David Wright said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/29, story 4, 1:00, Llamas, 14.63M) that the White House is "not happy" about Rice's tweet. Wright added that the White House says "the reorganization is about streamlining the process, making it easy for the President to make tough and intelligence decisions. And they say they're fortunate to have someone experienced like General Flynn to lead the NSC." The [Washington Times](#) (1/29, Richardson, 272K) said that Spicer "fired back by calling Ms. Rice's comments 'clearly inappropriate language from a former ambassador' and took a swipe at the Obama administration's track record on national security."

[Bloomberg Politics](#) (1/29, Sink, 201K) says that former Defense Secretary Robert Gates told ABC "that while he wasn't concerned about Bannon's inclusion, he did believe pushing the DNI and military out of meetings was a 'big mistake.'" Said Gates, "They both bring a perspective and judgement [sic] and experience to bear that every president, whether they like it or not, finds useful."

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M), David J. Rothkopf, chief executive and editor of the FP Group, which publishes Foreign Policy magazine, calls Trump's actions with the NSC "deeply worrisome," arguing that after "essentially demot[ing] the highest-ranking military officer in the United States, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the highest-ranking intelligence officer in the United States, the director of national intelligence," Trump "compounded this error of structure with an error of judgment" by making Bannon a permanent member of the NSC. Bannon, he argues, "is the precisely wrong person for this wrong role" as his "national security experience consists of a graduate degree and seven years in the Navy" and his "role as chairman of Breitbart.com...suggests this is someone who not only has no business being a permanent member of the most powerful consultative body in the world — he has no business being in a position of responsibility in any government." In a column for [USA Today](#) (1/29, 5.28M), Ray Locker, the paper's Washington enterprise editor, is also critical of Trump's move, saying it "invites another valid comparison" with former President Richard Nixon, who "like Trump" had "real and imagined gripes with the nation's intelligence community."

## **Editorial Wrap-Up:**

**NEW YORK TIMES.** *"Sorry, Rules Don't Dissolve By Decree."* In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) takes issue with the "flurry of executive orders" issued by President Trump, saying his "blanket federal hiring freeze is a proven loser tried by presidents of both parties, and his talk of slashing most regulations is pure fantasy." Trump, the Times argues, "appears to have little understanding of how the federal government is organized and functions, and his skeletal staff is still trying to learn." Trump has been "signing his executive orders on TV, holding them up and explaining them aloud, like story hour in the Oval Office." While "these pledges [may] actually streamline government in a positive way, instead of undermining it, as the ideologues around the president seem to want," so far, "they are mainly show."

*"Drilling And Dirty Air In Los Angeles."* In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (1/30, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) laments the health toll oil wells have taken on the poorer neighborhoods of Los Angeles. The Times acknowledges proposed reforms from a lawsuit settlement in which "the city would hold a public hearing and conduct an evaluation of potential health and environmental consequences for each new drilling project, and require oil companies to mitigate any health hazards." However, the Times criticizes the moves for failing to measure up to "the specific steps other cities and states have taken" and calls for "a buffer zone law" to protect poor residents' health.

**WASHINGTON POST.** *"Mr. Pruitt's Tepid Commitment To Clean Up The Chesapeake Bay."* A [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M) editorial raises questions about EPA Administrator-designate Scott

Pruitt's commitment to cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay. According to the Post, during his hearing before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee this month, Pruitt "seemed to embrace the bay cleanup effort," but when Sen. Ben Cardin "pressed him further in written questions, Mr. Pruitt's commitment to the cleanup deal got murkier." The Post argues that "a strong federal hand" is needed in the cleanup effort and it will "hold Mr. Pruitt to his encouraging tone during his in-person questioning."

***"Mr. Trump Is Picking A Fight With Urban America Over Sanctuary Cities."*** In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M) says President Trump "has triggered a showdown with large swaths of urban America," over sanctuary cities, and argues that he is "unwise to pick a divisive fight impelled by the fiction that the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants constitute a community of predatory and violent criminals." The Post says it is unclear "which federal funding Mr. Trump would or legally could try to suspend as a means of coercing jurisdictions to cooperate with federal officials, and whether such a threat would amount to much leverage." Moreover, he "stands to gain very little by declaring what amounts to a culture war on huge swaths of urban America that, with good reason, would defy his attempts to deport millions of productive and largely law-abiding immigrants."

***"Can Slurs Be Trademarked? In This Case, The Supreme Court Should Say Yes."*** In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (1/29, 11.43M) says that while it has called on "Washington's pro football team to abandon its offensive nickname," the Supreme Court is currently considering whether "business owners who think differently have the same right to federal intellectual property protection as everyone else." The government "will not register a trademark if it 'may disparage...persons, living or dead, institutions, beliefs, or national symbols, or bring them into contempt or disrepute.'" The case at hand involves Simon Tam, who "sought to register his all-Asian American dance band's name — The Slants," and was denied. The Post argues that "existing law is too vague" and the High Court "should strike the 'may disparage'" because that is "what the First Amendment requires," even if it means the Washington area must "rely on community pressure, and a stubborn owner's sense of decency — not a lawsuit — to get rid of the team's offensive name."

**WALL STREET JOURNAL. *"Trump's Refugee Bonfire."*** The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) is critical of President Trump's executive order on refugees, saying in an editorial that the policy was rushed and overly broad, and seemed designed to create chaos.

***"Scott Walker's School Bonus."*** A [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorial praises Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's collective-bargaining reforms, known as Act 10, for saving taxpayer money and cites a Stanford University study by allowing school districts to negotiate teacher pay based on merit instead of seniority, they have improved student learning.

***"Big Labor's Membership Pains."*** In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/29, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) highlights the annual report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics which shows that in 2016, the unionized share of the US workforce fell to 10.7% from 11.1% the year before. Pointing out that in the 25 states that had right-to-work laws, union membership fell by about 290,000, while membership grew by 50,000 in the other 25, the Journal says workers have a right to decide whether to join a union, and more often than not they are deciding against it.

## **Big Picture:**

### **HEADLINES FROM TODAY'S FRONT PAGES.**

#### ***Wall Street Journal:***

[Trump Immigration Ban Sows Chaos](#)

[Trump Team Kept Plan For Travel Ban Quiet](#)

[The Rally's Next Test: Can Earnings Keep Up With Stock Prices?](#)

[Oil Firms Plot Divergent Spending Paths](#)

#### ***New York Times:***

[Travelers Stranded And Protests Swell Over Trump Order](#)

[Bannon Seizes A Security Role From Generals](#)  
[How Trump's Rush To Enact An Immigration Ban Unleashed Global Chaos](#)  
[US Commando Killed In Yemen In Trump's First Counterterrorism Operation](#)  
[After Mastectomies, An Unexpected Blow: Numb New Breasts](#)  
[In Face Of Trump's Order, Some Muslim Nations Are Conspicuously Silent](#)  
[Demonstrators In Streets, And At Airports, Protest Immigration Order](#)

***Washington Post:***

[Trump Stands By Order As Confusion, Dissent Swirl](#)  
[Officials Fear Move Will Set Back Efforts To Fight Terrorism](#)  
[Questions Multiply Over Bannon's Role In Decision](#)  
[In A Muslim Enclave, Torn Families And Trump Supporters At Odds](#)  
[As They Become Americans, A Mix Of Elation And Worry](#)

***Financial Times:***

[Federer Beats Nadal To Win 18th Slam Title](#)  
[Trump Defiant As World Leaders Criticise Travel Ban](#)  
[Bloody Philippine Drugs War Sparks Rush For Rehab](#)

***Washington Times:***

[White House Says Trump Orders On 'Extreme Vetting' Still In Effect](#)  
[Republicans Miss Own Deadline To Begin Repeal Of Obamacare](#)  
[Protesters Decry Trump's Refugee Ban During A Busy Week For Dissenters](#)  
[Islamic State Finds Success Infiltrating Its Terrorists Into Refugee Flows To West](#)  
[Green Groups Target Trump With Guerrilla Warfare Campaign](#)  
[Conservative Groups Press States To Overhaul Voter Lists, Combat Fraud](#)

***Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:***

**ABC:** Travel Ban Reactions; Travel Ban-Legal Challenge; Trump-Travel Ban; Trump-National Security Council; Travel Ban Impact; US SEAL Casualty-Yemen; Weather Forecast; 40-Year Murder Mystery; Phone Voice Scam; Audi Recall; Colorado Avalanche; MBA Long-shot; Military Academy Grand-slam.

**CBS:** Travel Ban Reactions; Trump-Travel Ban, National Security Council, Diplomacy; US SEAL Casualty-Yemen; War in Iraq; Israel-US Embassy Move; Chicago Police Chief Health; NFL News; Tennis News; Aleppo Soccer Match; Princess Diana Statue.

***Network TV At A Glance:***

Travel Ban Reactions – 9 minutes, 5 seconds  
Trump-Travel Ban – 4 minutes, 35 seconds  
US SEAL Casualty-Yemen – 2 minutes, 35 seconds

***Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:***

**ABC:** Quebec City Mosque Attack; Delta Flight Delays; Travel Ban Reactions; US SEAL Casualty-Yemen.

**CBS:** Travel Ban Reactions; Quebec City Mosque Attack; Delta Flight Delays; SAG Awards; Miss Universe.

**FOX:** Quebec City Mosque Attack; Trump-Travel Ban; Travel Ban Reactions; Confirmation Hearings; Princess Diana Statue.

**NPR:** Travel Ban Reactions; Travel Ban-Interview; Travel Ban-Canadian Response; Quebec City Mosque Attack.

**Washington Schedule:**

**TODAY'S EVENTS IN WASHINGTON.**

**White House:**

PRESIDENT TRUMP — Holds breakfast and listening session with small business leaders; signs Executive Order; meets with Chief of Staff, Reince Priebus; has lunch with the Vice President; meets with Director of the Domestic Policy Council, Andrew Bremberg; meets with presidential personnel; meets with



staff from the National Economic Council.

VICE PRESIDENT PENCE — Host a breakfast meeting with King Abdullah II of Jordan; has lunch with the President.

**US Senate:** 3:00 PM Senate aims to end debate on Secretary of State-nominee Rex Tillerson – Senate convenes and, following a period of morning business, holds cloture vote on the nomination of Rex Tillerson to be Secretary of State Location: Washington, DC <http://www.senate.gov/>

5:00 PM Senate Foreign Relations Committee organizational meeting – Business Meeting, with agenda including ‘Subcommittee Membership and Jurisdiction for the 115th Congress’, ‘The Committee Rules for the 115th Congress’, and ‘S. Res. XXXX, Authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Foreign Relations during the 115th Congress’ Location: S-116, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC <http://foreign.senate.gov/>

Senate Small Business Committee votes on Linda McMahon to be SBA administrator – Business Meeting, to consider the nomination of Linda McMahon to be Small Business Administration Administrator \* President-elect Donald Trump announced the nomination of the former WWE president and CEO last month Location: S-216, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC <http://sbc.senate.gov/>

**US House:** 2:00 PM House Small Business Committee holds staff briefing ahead of organizational meeting – House Committee on Small Business staff briefing, to discuss the committee’s rules and authorization and oversight plan, ahead of an organizational meeting Wednesday Location: Rm 2360, Rayburn House Office Bldg, Washington, DC <http://smallbusiness.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/SmallBizGOP>

5:00 PM House Rules Committee hearing – Hearing on ‘H.J. Res. XXX – Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of the Interior known as the Stream Protection Rule’, ‘H.J. Res. XXX – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of a rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to ‘Disclosure of Payments by Resource Extraction Issuers’, and ‘H.J. Res. XXX – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Social Security Administration relating to Implementation of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007’ Location: H-313, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC <http://www.rules.house.gov/> <https://twitter.com/RulesReps>

**Other:** 9:00 AM National Health Policy Conference – National Health Policy Conference, providing insider perspectives on critical health care issues and priorities for the upcoming year. Speakers include House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi Location: Washington Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC <http://www.academyhealth.org/events/2017-01/2017-academyhealth-national-health-policy-conference> <https://twitter.com/AcademyHealth>

12:00 PM ‘How Washington Is Destroying American Indians’ book discussion at AEI – ‘The New Trail of Tears: How Washington Is Destroying American Indians’ book discussion at the American Enterprise Institute, with author Naomi Scafeher Riley speaking on how federal policy affects Native Americans. Followed by panel discussion with Schaefer Riley, Republican Rep. Rob Bishop, Chris Edwards (Cato Institute), and Keith Moore (formerly Bureau of Indian Education) Location: AEI, 1789 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC <http://www.aei.org/> <https://twitter.com/AEI>

6:30 PM White House press secretary speaks at GW discussion on the media under President Trump – George Washington University hosts ‘Does Trump Need the News Media? Making and Shaping the News from 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue’ – a discussion on the Trump administration’s ‘war’ with the media, the role of the White House press corps, and the access journalists should have covering the White House. Speakers include White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer, former White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer, CNN Senior White House Correspondent Jim Acosta, POLITICO Media Reporter Hadas Gold, The Wall Street Journal White House Correspondent Carol Lee, Reuters White House Correspondent and White House Correspondents’ Association President Jeff Mason, C-SPAN Senior Executive Producer Steve Scully, and GW School of Media and Public Affairs Director Frank Sesno Location: Cloyd Heck Marvin Center, GW, 800 21st St NW, Washington, DC <http://www.gwu.edu> <https://twitter.com/SMPAGWU> #TrumpMedia

## Last Laughs:

### **LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.**

All late-night talk shows were in re-runs or had no political jokes.

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